

Appl. No. 10/708,157
Amdt. dated April 17, 2006
Reply to Office action of February 06, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Claims 1-4, 7-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chen et al. (US 6515420).

5 Response:

Claim 1 has been amended to overcome the above rejection. Specifically, claim 1 now includes an additional limitation regarding the extended rib for defining each of the sub-pixel units in each of the first discharge spaces without completely separating the sub-pixel units in the single first discharge space, which is previously limited in claim 7. No new matter is introduced. The above limitation is included in order to further define the structural considerations given to the claimed invention.

Chen discloses a full-color plasma display panel (PDP) 40 including a rear plate 42, a front plate 44. The rear plate 42 includes a plurality of barrier ribs 58 and air lock ribs 53. Each barrier rib 58 is positioned in parallel to each other on the rear plate 42. The barrier ribs 58 will co-operate with air lock ribs 53 to seal the front plate 44 and the rear plate 42. Then, a plurality of discharge space groups are defined between the front plate 44 and the rear plate 42 of the full-color PDP 40. Each discharge space group contains a first discharge space 60a, a second discharge space 60b, and a third discharge space 60c. *And each discharge space 60 contains a plurality of display units 62, each display unit 62 is an area defined by one of the first electrodes 46, one of the second electrodes 48, and one of the third electrodes 50.* It is noteworthy that the barrier ribs 58 co-operated with the air lock ribs 53 is used to define the discharge groups which contain the display units 62 respectively, but

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each of the discharge space 60 comprises no extended ribs for separating the display units 62 within according to Fig. 2 and column 3, lines 29-38 and 55-59. In other words, Chen never taught any extended ribs used to incompletely separate the display units 62 in the discharge space 60.
5 Therefore the applicant asserts that the amended claim 1 is patentably different from Chen. Reconsideration of the amended claim 1 is respectfully requested.

In addition, claims 2-4 are dependent on the amended claim 1 and
10 should be allowed if the amended claim 1 is allowed.

Claim 7 is canceled. Therefore no consideration of claim 7 is needed anymore.

15 Claims 8 and 10 are dependent on the amended claim 1 and should be allowed if the amended claim 1 is allowed.

Claim 9 recites that the sub-pixel unit of each pixel are arranged in delta. Although Chen did not detail whether the RGB display unit 62 is
20 arranged in line or in delta, and thus the examiner indicated that one set of RGB are arranged in delta in Chen, the applicant believes that Chen's RGB display units are arranged in line for simplifying the voltage application. In addition, claim 9 is dependent on the amended claim 1 and should be allowed if the amended claim 1 is allowed.

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Claim 11 recites that the plasma display panel further comprising a plurality of second closed rib units positioned between the front substrate and the rear substrate and each of which comprises one of the sub-pixel

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units.

According to Fig. 2 and column 3, lines 55-59 of Chen, each discharge space 60 (inclusive of the first discharge space 60a, the second discharge space 60b, and the third discharge space 60c) contains a plurality of display units 62. Contrary to Chen, the second closed rib units in the present application comprise one sub-pixel unit. Therefore the applicant asserts that claim 11 is patentably different from Chen and reconsideration of the amended claim 11 is politely requested.

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Claims 12-14 are dependent on claim 11 and should be allowed if claim 11 is allowed.

2. Claim 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al., as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Betsui et al. (US 5825128).

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Response:

Claim 15 limits the first closed rib units are waffle-structured ribs. And claim 16 further limits that each of the first discharge spaces is defined between the front substrate, the rear substrate, and two adjacent waffle-structured ribs.

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According to column 4, lines 43-56, a first channel 64 is defined by the first wall 55 and the neighboring air-locking ribs 53, and connected to the first discharge spaces 60a by the upper openings. And a second channel 66 is defined by the second wall 57 and the neighboring air-locking ribs 53, and connected to the third discharge spaces 60c through each of the lower

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openings. *Therefore, the first channel 64 enables the first discharge gas to circulate around all the first discharge spaces 60a, and the second channel 66 enables the third discharge gas to circulate around all of the third discharge spaces 60c.* The point is that Chen's first discharge spaces 60a
5 connected to each other through the first channel 64 and the third discharge spaces 60c connected to each other through the second channel 66 while the first closed rib units in waffle-structured in the present application never connect to each other and so do the first discharge spaces defined between the front substrate, the rear substrate, and two adjacent waffle-structured
10 ribs.

Secondly, although Betsui's separator walls 29' are waffle-structured, the wide portion 31a are still connected to each other through the narrow portion 31b' while the first closed rib units in waffle-structured in the
15 present application never connect to each other and so do the first discharge spaces defined between the front substrate, the rear substrate, and two adjacent waffle-structured ribs.

Therefore the applicant asserts that to have waffle-structured ribs
20 taught by Betsui in the device of Chen et al. is still distinctly different from claims 15-16 and reconsideration of claims 15-16 is politely requested.

3. Allowable Subject Matter

25 *Claim 17-20 are objected to as being depend upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.*

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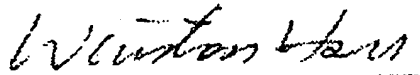
Response:

As dependent claims 17-20 are dependent on claim 16, it should be allowed if claim 16 is allowed in the light of the explanation above.

- 5 Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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Sincerely yours,



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